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STATE FOR WHA/CCA AND EAP/MTS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PREL](#) [ETRD](#) [ETTC](#) [CU](#) [RP](#)
SUBJECT: CUBA: NSC-DIRECTED REVIEW REGARDING SUSPENSION OF
TITLE III OF THE LIBERTAD ACT

REF: A. STATE 57782
[1](#)B. 05 MANILA 5605

[1](#)1. (U) The GRP has diplomatic relations with Cuba. According to Department of Foreign Affairs Director for Central America Ariel Penaranda, after a two-year gap, the newly appointed Philippine Ambassador to Cuba arrived in Havana in April 2006. The Cubans currently maintain an Ambassador and a very small mission in Manila. The last visit by a senior GRP official to Cuba was by a DFA Assistant Secretary for American Affairs over three years ago. There

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are no specific plans to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the establishment of ties between the two countries.

Bilateral Agreements -----

[1](#)2. (U) The GRP signed six agreements with the Government of Cuba during 2001 and 2002, on cultural and educational exchanges, cooperation in science and technology, cooperation between the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Cuban Chamber of Commerce, and the extradition of prisoners. There are no bilateral trade agreements.

Limited Commercial and Investment Relationship -----

[1](#)3. (U) The Philippines does not have a significant trading relationship with Cuba. According to the Department of Trade and Industry, there are no registered Philippine investments in Cuba, nor are there any known Cuban investments in the Philippines. There is a small amount of trade between the two countries, amounting to less than \$1 million annually. Total GRP exports to Cuba for the period January to August 2005 totaled \$20,000; primary exports were electronics and machinery. Total Cuban imports to the RP for the same period totaled \$664,000; primary imports were tobacco products, transport equipment, and sugar.

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